

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant: Patrick Miles et al.

Art Unit: 3762

Serial No.: 10/789,797

Examiner: Hammond, Ellen C.

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Title: Surgical Access System and Related Methods

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Signature: /Rory Schermerhorn/

Name: Rory Schermerhorn

**Amendment in Reply to February 22, 2010 Office Action**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed February 22, 2010, please amend the above-identified application as indicated below: